We are pleased to announce that Dr. Dirkje Postma has accepted our invitation to serve as the 2004 Jeffrey M. Drazen, M.D. Visiting Professor. The dates of her visit are November 18 and 19.

Dr. Postma is Professor of Pulmonology and Chairman of the Research Institute for Asthma and COPD at the University of Groningen. She has done groundbreaking research in the genetics of asthma and in defining predictors of accelerated decline in lung function in asthma. In 2001 she was awarded from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research the Spinoza Prize, considered the “Dutch Nobel Prize,” for her research in asthma and COPD.

We are planning a dinner in her honor on the evening of Thursday, November 18. You and your significant other are invited; please save the date!
Asthma Grand Rounds Schedule, 2004-'05

September 17, 2004
Food Allergy
Elizabeth TePas, M.D.

November 19, 2004
Aspirin Desensitization: Who, When, Where, How?
Mariana Castells, M.D.

January 14, 2005
Novel Targets for Asthma Therapeutics
Jack Elias, M.D.

March 4, 2005
Beta Agonists: Our Response Is in Our Genes
Elliot Israel, M.D.

June 3, 2005
Obesity and Asthma
Kelan Tantisira, M.D.

Presentations begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Bornstein Family Amphitheater at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Live video-conferencing is provided at the Massachusetts General Hospital (Lawrence House Conference Room) and North Shore Medical Center (Salem Hospital, Davenport Bldg, MAC-4).
First Annual P.A.C. Dinner-Dance

Thursday, September 22, 2005
at the Boston Marriott Hotel in Newton.
As a fundraising activity
(and opportunity for social gathering)
we are planning our first
Partners Asthma Center Dinner-Dance.
If you would like to become involved,
please call Elaine Carter at 617-732-7419.

Partners Asthma Center Website
We are working to improve the appearance of our
Partners Asthma Center website
(www.asthma.partners.org). We will soon hold a
“Day in the Life of the Partners Asthma Center”
photo shoot at your practice site. Stay tuned.

Asthma Educators’ Institute Courses
The first of this year’s series of four seminars for allied health professionals, Understanding Allergies, was organized by Dr. Aidan Long and held at the MGH on June 6. More than 100 nurses, respiratory therapists, and pharmacists attended … and gave “two thumbs up” in their course evaluations. The next program, Difficult-to-Control Asthma, will be held at the BWH on Saturday, September 11.
Save the Date:
Dinner to honor the 2004 Jeffrey M. Drazen, M.D. Visiting Professor at Partners Asthma Center (Dr. Dirkje Postma): **November 18**

Richard Wilson, patient at the Partners Asthma Center, skippers his trimaran, *Great American II*, which he sailed solo across the North Atlantic this summer in the Transat 2004 race, capturing second place in his class.